

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending in the present application. No new matter is inserted into the application.

In response to the Office Communication, Applicants elect Group I, claims 1-9, drawn to a method of HLA typing, with traverse. Further, Applicants elect SEQ ID NO: 3 for examination, also with traverse.

The Restriction Requirement dated October 3, 2002 stated that Applicants were required to elect a particular SEQ ID NO from groups II or III, or a specific sequences or combination of sequences from group I for examination. As such, Applicants elected SEQ ID NOs: 3, 86, 105, 106, and 113 in the Reply filed on November 4, 2002.

However, in the Communication, the Examiner asserts that the elected combination of sequences "is not understood." It now appears that the Examiner wanted an election of a *primer pair* that could amplify a HLA allele, or a *single DNA probe* that could specifically hybridize with a HLA allele.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's original Restriction Requirement was not clear. However, in order to properly respond to the Office communication, Applicants elect SEQ ID NO: 3, with traverse, as noted above.

As noted in the Reply filed on November 4, 2002, Applicants do not believe that the Examiner has established a *prima facie* case of lack of unity of invention as required by MPEP

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1893.03(d). As such, the Restriction Requirement is deficient and should be withdrawn.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this application, the Examiner is requested to contact Kristi L. Rupert, Ph.D. (Reg. No. 45,702) at (703) 205-8000.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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